

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GEORGE 01976 151837Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
IO-13 /081 W
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R 151801Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7026
INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN
AMEMBASSY KINGSTON
AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO
AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GEORGETOWN 1976

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, GY
SUBJECT: COST OF PRIMIN'S FOUR-NATION TRIP DRAWS OPPOSITION
CRITICISM

1. AN ARTICLE HEADLINED "HOW THE GUYANESE TRAVEL" WHICH
APPEARED IN THE JAMIACAN "DAILY GLEANER" OF MAY 31 HAS BEEN
PICKED UP AND USED BY OPPOSITION GROUPS BOTH IN THEIR NEWS
SHEETS AND ANTI-REFERENDUM HAND-OUTS. THE "GLEANER" REPORT,
WHICH APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN BASED ON AN OFFICIAL GOG DOCUMENT,
STATES THAT THE TOTAL COST OF PRIMIN BURNHAM'S APRIL-MAY
STATE VISIT TO MOSCOW, NORTH KOREA, EAST GERMANY AND THE UK
WAS G\$484,141 (APPROXIMATELY \$200,000 US).

2. OPPOSITION ELEMENTS HAVE BEEN ESPECIALLY CRITICAL OF THE
SIZE OF THE TRAVEL PARTY (THIRTY-FINE MEMBERS INCLUDING TWO
PERSONAL PHYSICIANS FOR THE PRIMIN), AND THE AMOUNT OF PER
DIEM AND OTHER PERSONAL ALLOWANCES (E.G., COLD WEATHER CLOTHING
FOR MRS. BURNHAM). ACCOMPANYING CABINET MEMBERS, FOR EXAMPLE,
WERE ALLOWED APPROXIMATELY \$160 US PER DIEM, DESPITE THE
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FACT THAT FOOD AND LODGING IN MOST CASES WAS PROVIDED BY
THE HOST GOVERNMENT.

3. COMMENT: THE GOG'S STYLE OF TRAVEL IS RESENTED BY
MANY GUYANESE, WHO ARE NORMALLY ALLOWED TO TAKE ONLY G\$15
(US\$6) OUT OF THE COUNTRY WHEN TRAVELING, AND ARE CON-
TINUALLY REMINDED BY THE GOG OF THE NATION'S LACK OF

FOREIGN EXCHANGE. ALTHOUGH THE TWO GOVERNMENT-OWNED
DAILIES HAVE BEEN EMPHASIZING THE ECONOMIC BENEFITS OF
THE TRIP IN TERMS OF FOREIGN ASSISTANCE, THEY HAVE NOT
CHOSEN TO REPORT OR COMMENT ON THE EXPENSE OF THE TRIP
TO THE GOG.
BURKE

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 15 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
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Disposition History: n/a
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TAGS: PINT, GY, (BURNHAM, L F S)
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